Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested in view of the amendment to the claims presented hereinabove and the remarks that follow hereinafter.

Claims 1, 7, 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perlo et al. These claims have been canceled, thus their rejection is now believed moot.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 14, 15, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Taboada et al. All of the rejected claims have been canceled, which Applicant submits makes this rejection moot.

Claims 8 – 13 are allowed.

Claims 3, 5, 16 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3 and 5 have been amended to include the limitations of base claim 1, therefore, both claims should be allowed. Claims 16 and 18 have been canceled.

In summary, all of the claims remaining in the application are either allowed or have been placed into condition for allowance, therefore, an early indication of allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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